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PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

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		Application Number	09/921,351
		Filing Date	08/02/2001
		First Named Inventor	EHLING
		Group Art Unit	DEC 07 2001
		Examiner Name	TC 1100
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	BATG-6

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	JOHN F. SALAZAR, REG. NO. 39,353
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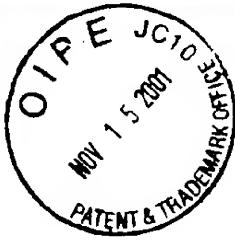
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
Washington, D.C., United States of America

In re Application of EHLING

Serial No.: 09/921,351

Filed: 08/02/2001

For: Method and Device for Conditioning
Comminuted Tobacco Material

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 1.97(b)

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.56, the references listed below are being brought to the attention of the Examiner for consideration in connection with the examination of the above identified patent application. The reference below is an equivalent of German Publication No. DE 197 34 364 A1 submitted to the U.S. Patent Office on November 6, 2001. A copy of the cited reference is enclosed.

U.S. Equivalent of German Publication No. DE 197 34 364 A1

Patent

Inventor

Date

6,158,441

Grigutsch et al.

December 12, 2000

Certification Under 37 CFR §1.97(b)

This information is being submitted before the mailing of a first office action. As such, no fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: November 15, 2001

Encl: Form PTO/SB/21; PTO/SB/08A (including a copy of the references); Return postcard for evidencing receipt of above items